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ABSTRACT

This Digest lists a sample of no-cost Internet resources of special interest to K-12 educators. Highlights include: Guides to Internet Resources; Lesson Plans and Teaching Materials; Keypals and Penpals; Acceptable Use Policies; Technology Plans for K-12 Schools; Internet Projects for the Classroom; Grant Information; E-Rate Information; Federal Government Information; State Education Departments; Standards-Based Education; Reference Resources; Library Catalogs; Kids Resources; and Other Resources. (AEF)

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An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators. Part I: Information Resources, Update 2000. ERIC Digest

By Nancy A. Morgan, updated by Carolyn Sprague

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An Introduction to Internet Resources for K–12 Educators
Part I: Information Resources, Update 2000

by Nancy A. Morgan, Updated by Carolyn Sprague

The Internet is an international computer network composed of thousands of smaller networks. Recently, through state and regional education networks and commercial providers, the vast resources of the Internet are increasingly available to administrators, school library media specialists, and classroom teachers. This Digest lists a sample of no cost Internet resources of special interest to K–12 educators. Readers should be aware that the resources and their Internet addresses below are subject to change.

Guides to Internet Resources:

- **The Argus Clearinghouse:** A large collection of guides to Internet resources categorized by topic.
  http://www.clearinghouse.net/
- **AskERIC InfoGuides:** Topical guides to Internet, ERIC, and print resources.
  http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/InfoGuides/
- **The Internet Public Library:** Links to pathfinders in the following categories: Arts & Humanities; Business & Consumers; Computers & Internet; Education; Entertainment, Leisure, Hobbies; General; Health, Medicine & Nutrition; Law, Politics & Government; Science & Technology; Society and Culture.
  http://www.ipl.org/ref/QUE/PF/

Lesson Plans and Teaching Materials:

- **The AskERIC Virtual Library** contains hundreds of lesson plans, including, but not limited to, language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. Also included are lesson plans from *School Library Media Activities Monthly*, Newton's Apple Educators Guides, and Crossroads: K16 American History Curriculum.
  http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/Lessons/
- **The Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM)** is a "virtual card catalog" to lesson plans, activities, projects, and curriculum found all over the Internet.
  http://www.thegateway.org

Keypals and Penpals:

- **IECC-Intercultural E-mail ClassroomConnections**
  http://www.iecc.org
- **ePALS Classroom Exchange** helps classrooms to meet, correspond and interact with other classrooms.
  http://www.epals.com/
- **Mighty Media Keypals Club**
  http://www.mightymedia.com/keypals/

Acceptable Use Policies:

Many schools provide Internet access to students, and staff have created policies and agreements for the appropriate use of Internet accounts. Samples of agreements, policies, and opinion pieces have been collected at:

- **Armadillo's WWW Server**
  http://chico.rice.edu/armadillo/Rice/Resources/acceptable.html
- **Acceptable Use Policies: A Handbook**—From the Virginia Department of Education.
  http://www.pen.k12.va.us/go/VDOE/Technology/AUP/home.shtml
- **Development of Student Acceptable Use Policies**—From the National Education Association NEA Focus on Technology.
  http://www.nea.org/cet/BRIEFS/brief12.html

Technology Plans for K–12 Schools:

- **The National Center for Technology Planning**
  http://www.nctp.com/
- **Technology Planning Resources**
  http://www.etc.sccoe.k12.ca.us/CalTIP/techpln.html
- **District Administrator's Guide to Planning for Technology**
  http://www.smartschools-cie.org/leadersonline/lol_library.html
- **Technology 101**
  http://www.teachnet.org/docs.cfm/dcs tech101?page_frame=home

Internet Projects for the Classroom:

Examples of telecommunication projects that incorporate the use of the Internet in the classroom can be found on the following sites:

- **Global SchoolNet Foundation**
  http://www.gsn.org
- **Pitsco Online Collaborative Projects**
  http://www.pitsco.com/p/Respages/collab.html
- **NickNacks:** Collaborative Education on the Internet.
  http://home.talkcity.com/academydr/nicknacks/

Grant Information:

- **U.S. Department of Education Grants and Contracts Information:** Select "Grants Information."
  http://ocfo.ed.gov//index.htm
- **Foundation Center**
  http://fdncenter.org/
- **GrantsWeb**
  http://sra.rams.com/cws/sra/resource.htm
- **The Foundation Center**
  http://fdncenter.org/
- **Pitsco's Launch to Grants and Funding**
  http://www.pitsco.com/p/Respages/grants.html
- **Schoolgrants**
  http://www.schoolgrants.org

E-Rate Information:

- **The Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)**
  http://www.sl.universalservice.org/

Federal Government Information:

- **The Federal Web Locator:** From The Center for Information Law and Policy at Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology.
  http://www.infoctr.edu/fwl/
- **FedWorld Information Network**
  http://www.fedworld.gov/
- **Ingram Library—Government Sites for Kids**
  http://www.westga.edu/~library/depts/govdoc/kids.shtml
- **Federal Government Index**
  http://www.info.gov/directory.html

State Education Departments:

- **U.S. Department of Education** links and Addresses of State Education Agencies.
  http://www.ed.gov/Programs/bastmp/SEA.htm
- **Links to State Education Agencies from the Council of Chief State School Officers**
  http://www.ccsso.org/seamenu.html
- **Links to State Education Agencies from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education**
  http://www.ncate.org/wannabe/links.html

Standards-Based Education:

- **The Mid-Continental Regional Educational Laboratory (McREL)**
  http://www.mcrel.org/standards/
- **Developing Educational Standards**
  http://www.putwest.boces.org/Standards.html
- **Sites Offering Academic and Skill Standards from the U.S. Department of Education**
  http://www.ed.gov/G2K/standard.html
- **Connections+:** lesson plans, activities, curriculum resources linked to standards.
  http://www.mcrel.org/resources/plus/index.asp
- **Achieve Standards Clearinghouse** gathers state standards in one place.
  http://www.achieve.org/achieve/achievestart.nsf/pages/clearinghome

Reference Resources:

- **Internet Public Library Reference Center**
  http://www.ipl.org/ref/
- **The Libraries at Purdue University**
  http://thorplus.lib.purdue.edu/reference/index.html

Library Catalogs:

- **webCATS**, a directory of library catalogs.
  http://www.lights.com/webcats/
- **Library of Congress**
  http://lcweb.loc.gov/catalog/

Kids Resources:

- **KidsClick!** Web Search for Kids by Librarians.
  http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/KidsClick!/
- **Berit's Best Sites for Children**
  http://db.cochran.com/li_toc:theoPage.db
- **The New York Times Learning Network On the Web**
  Home Page: *http://www.nytimes.com/learning/*
  Student Connections: *http://www.nytimes.com/learning/students/index.html*
- **Student Connections**
  http://www.nytimes.com/learning/students/index.html
- **Kids Web**—A World Wide Web Digital Library for Schoolkids.
  http://www.kidsvista.com/index.html

Other Resources:

- **ACCESS ERIC:** Gateway to the Internet sites of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC).
  http://www.accesseric.org/
- **Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)**
  http://www.cosn.org/
- **Education World:** A searchable database of 50,000 education links for teachers, parents, and students. Includes lesson plans, education news, an educators' forum, and more.
  http://www.education-world.com/
- **NASA Spacelink:** Information about NASA, including the space shuttle program and science curriculum activities.
  http://spacelink.nasa.gov/.index.html
- **Web 66:** A K–12 WWW Project from the University of Minnesota.
  http://web66.coled.umn.edu/
- **Yahoo:** A hierarchical subject-oriented catalog for the World Wide Web and Internet.
  http://www.yahoo.com/

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